

# This Week's Offerings at the Theaters

## "MAN FROM BLANKLEY'S" PROVES FINE COMEDY

Mr. Hawtrey's Audience at National Laughs Heartily.

## SOCIAL TYPES WELL DRAWN

English Actor in English Play a Pronounced Success—Americans Interested in London's Vulgar Rich.

A delightful comedy, exploiting the foibles of the vulgar rich in London and based upon a well-known story by Felix Anstey, was acted at the National Theater last night to the gleeful satisfaction of all the men in a large audience. The work was called "The Man From Blankley's," retaining the title of Mr. Anstey's book, and was presented by Charles Hawtrey and a company of English actors. It met with the reception it deserved—which is to say that it was entitled by manifest right to unceasing laughter and that last night's audience entered heartily and willingly into its spirit.

It has been noted that the performance evoked particularly the whole-souled laughter of the men who saw it acted. Few women present enjoyed it so greatly because society is entirely too serious a matter to all women save a few. Half the contretemps which marked this one episode for "The Man From Blankley's" found parallels, or seemed to find them, within the social experience of every woman present, and the picture which suggested were too painful for light laughter. But the men did not care. Perhaps they even enjoyed the development of the plot the more because occasionally it came close to home.

## Types Universally Familiar.

Any man, however, who survived such a dinner as that of which the play chiefly consists would be entitled to all the humor he could find in the recollection of it. The guests were a fine array of types—not types indigenous to London, but types of social ambition wherever there is any society open to the few and denied to the many. It is not necessary to give names, although perhaps "Tidmarsh," "Gillwatt," "Bodfish," "Flinders," and "Bugle" might have value in suggesting personality. These roses by any other names would smell as sweet. There was a lady who loved her parrot and looked like a wren. Near her sat the long-whiskered gentleman whose knowledge of science dealt chiefly with details utterly impossible for discussion in mixed companies.

Across the table was the ebullient youth whose hair was plastered down to the wonderful smoothness in front and stuck out behind like a rooster's comb. Near him were the scientist's wife—a little fat woman who was of course mightily proud of her husband—and a mild-mannered gentleman whose conversation touched only on the lamentable nervousness of his beloved partner for life. The host and hostess were precisely the people to assemble such a kill-joy gathering. In truth, no one else could do it.

A particular sensation was given the airy periphery of this party of the great table at the table of two persons gently bred and genuinely refined. One was the governess of the Tidmarsh household, admitted to the entertainment to break the monotony of the evening. The other was a member of the Scottish peerage, admitted to the party in a London fog as the supposititious employee of an agency, sent, according to order, to fill a vacant place. These two were the outcasts, but eventually they are privileged to do some casting out of their own, and with that reversal of the social tables the comedy is mainly concerned. It is sufficient for the purposes of a review to say that the events to that end are entirely reasonable, that they add to the comedy rather than diminish it, and that the disclosure of more detail concerning it would let the cat out of the bag.

## Well Done and Well Received.

Critical analysis of this play reveals that, like all good comedy, its success depends upon the temporary association of well-developed and ill-adapted characters, and the events which such an association would probably entail. Thus it is with "The Rivals," with "Pickwick Papers," and with the story out of which Mr. Anstey has made this play. Like the kaleidoscope, the stage can arrange such an assembly of interesting, numbered patterns, and all will have form, design, and color. This is an elementary truth in dramatic construction, but it is many times more often preached than practiced.

Mr. Hawtrey and his company act the comedy well. All the actors keep well within their parts, a fine achievement for such characters as these, and they contribute about equally to the result. The chief roles are given to Fanny Brough, Alice Winton, Henry Stephenson, Fred Thorne, and Mr. Hawtrey and all are taken with unusual satisfaction to the audience. But the others all earn mention also—Maude Shiffert, Adie Burt, Lydia Rachel, Mabel Henry, Vera Gerald, Beatrice Terry, William F. Owen, E. A. Plumpton, Holman Clark, Herbert Ross and Arthur Playfair. It is a good company and well cast.

"A Message From Mars," good play as it was, had its patronage limited to those who could reflect the spirit of Dickens' "Christmas Carol." This other evening by Mr. Hawtrey will find a wider hearing surely; because it ought to include everyone who has ever had an unexpected guest to dinner, who has ever been an unexpected member of a dinner party, who has any rich relatives, who knows anywhere a spinster with a proclivity for parrots, or who has ever looked through society's scrub pines to see a landscape rolling, beautiful and peaceful with cupid for its guardian spirit. That last clause would seem to include women as well as men and it is only fair to admit, here at the close, that they also laughed heartily at "The Man From Blankley's." A. D. A.

## HOOPSKIRTS RETURN TO NATION'S CAPITAL

Ante-Bellum Costumes at the Columbia.

## NEW COMPANY NOT STRONG

Favorite Musical Numbers Well Received, Nevertheless—Applause for "My Own United States."

Less than a year ago the local public viewed for the first time a musical comedy which had for its motive events connected with the civil war. For the first time hoopskirts floated about the stage to the tune of old war ballads, and the North and South were prettily intermingled. This all took place in a musical presentation called "When Johnny Comes Marching Home," and which was repeated last night at the Columbia Theater before a small audience.

Upon its former visit the piece was carefully reviewed and its many attractive features described minutely. At that time the comedy was new. Prominent stage personages interpreted the principal roles and the chorus inspired by the sentiment of the piece and the general newness of things skipped about enthusiastically and made those in front believe that even war times have their happy moments.

However, Mr. Whitney, manager of "When Johnny Comes Marching Home" and several notable musical attractions, has trusted too much to the public's good nature when he sends a company composed largely of inexperienced people to uphold the good impression made by the comedy last year. The cast is not only weak dramatically, but vocally. Florence Hayward, a comedy young woman, sings in a sweet but light soprano voice that apparently rises after she has sung one verse of a song. William H. Thompson reminds one of the younger Carleton in the mellowness of his voice, but neither Mr. Thompson nor Miss Hayward have yet learned the rudiments of stage love-making.

Several of the musical numbers which scored a success last season were well received last night. These were notably "My Own United States," "Fairlyland," "Kate, My Southern Rose," and "Twins Down in the Garden of Eden."

## "THE FATAL WEDDING" AGAIN AT THE ACADEMY

Popular Melodrama Well Acted and Well Received.

"The Fatal Wedding," perhaps the best and most interesting of Theodore Kremer's plays, was presented last night at the Academy of Music by a well balanced company. The story is full of human interest, and affords the audience an ample opportunity to display their ability.

Throughout the performance, Eleanor Churchill, as Mrs. Howard, sustained her part well, and was deserving of the appreciative applause accorded her work. Thomas Lewis as Howard Wilson, and Benton Churchill as a man about town, the friend of the adventuress, also did well, and Julia Ralph as Cora Williams, the adventuress, gave an excellent interpretation of the character.

Cora Quinten as the Little Mother, and also as Jessie, the child of Howard Wilson, was frequently applauded for her good work. Baby Zena Keife sang and danced her way into the hearts of the audience. A special feature of the last act was Gertrude Haynes' celestial choir of twenty-five boys, which sang two selections. The soloist, Master Roy Charles, was roundly applauded.

## MODERN MELODRAMA APPLAUDED AT EMPIRE

"The Little Church Around the Corner" Is Well Received.

A panorama of thrilling scenes and melodramatic pictures, mixed with a little measure of comedy and pathos, constitute the material employed in the construction of "The Little Church Around the Corner," presented at the Empire Theater this week. The opening performance of the engagement was given last night, and elicited a favorable response from an audience that filled the playhouse.

The role of a forsaken wife is taken by Ruth Macaulay, who appeared to advantage in the emotional scenes. Al G. Swenson enacted the part of the husband, and was well received. The part of the villain is portrayed by William F. Ryan, while little Geraldine Tripp and Master Jack Ryan, a Washington boy, were enthusiastically greeted. The children occupy the center of the stage a large portion of the time.

The scenic effects in the final act are admirable. The set shows "The Little Church around the Corner" on Christmas night in a snowstorm.

## "MERRY MAIDENS" SCORE HIT AT THE LYCEUM

The Merry Maidens Burlesquers at the Lyceum this week have one of the best shows seen at the house this season. Both burlesques are good, and the olio is strong and well balanced.

## FORMER GOVERNOR'S SON TO GO ON THE STAGE

BALTIMORE, Nov. 24.—Frank Brown, Jr., only son of former Governor Frank Brown, of Maryland, will go on the stage next week, taking a minor part in the George Fawcett stock company, now playing here. Brown is rich. His sister, recently married Gordon Taylor Hughes, of New York.

## SUCCESSFUL COMEDY IN CHASE'S VAUDEVILLE

Bill Improves as It Develops—James J. Morton a Great Hit—Two Clever Skits Well Played.

The bill at Chase's this week starts off fairly well and improves with each number.

James J. Morton, the man of infinite jest, is the last on the list of merry-makers, and the way he says "Oh Shush" and "Far be it from thou" is calculated to bring a smile to the face of a sphinx. His turn is the funniest foolishness seen in Washington for many a day. His laugh-producing method is distinctively "Mortonized," and his success unqualified, if four encores signify anything.

Second honors were even between Mr. and Mrs. Fisher in the pastoral sketch by Ezra Kendall "The Half Way House," and Raymond Finlay and Lottie Burke in "Stagland Satire." Both acts are good; the comedy is clean and wholesome and the dialogue interesting.

The Watson, Hutchings & Edwards Company presents the same act as last year, which is without special merit. La Basque Quartet, French grand opera stars, give a good performance, but the accompaniment is a trifle heavy, often drowning the voices of the singers.

The other numbers are furnished by Al Lawson and Francis Namon, novelty acrobats, and the vaudeville, with songs from "The American Firm," Anna Caldwell, comedienne, failed to appear.

## DUSE DEMANDS \$1,800 FOR MUSIC HALL WORK

BERLIN, Nov. 24.—It is learned that Eleonore Duse, the famous actress, is contemplating going into music hall work.

The stage manager of the Apollo Variety Theater, of Dusseldorf, is negotiating with the actress for appearances in his theater. Duse, it is said, demands \$1,800 a night.

## ALT DEUTSCHLAND IS IN FULL BLAST

Celebration in Honor of "German Day" Opened in Convention Hall—Striking Reproduction of Alt Nuernberg.

Convention Hall never presented a quarter or more brilliant scene than that which greeted the eyes of beholders when at a few minutes after 7 o'clock last evening, at the touching of a button by the President of the United States at the White House, a myriad of electric lights flashed out on a miniature German town, in the streets of which gathered a festive throng, who gave life and color to "Alt Deutschland." The festival in honor of the 25th anniversary of the German Societies of the United States, is being held in Washington under the auspices of the United German Societies of the District of Columbia, the oldest organization of this kind in the United States.

An Impressive Opening. It was an impressive opening to a very significant celebration. No sooner had the many colored lights illumined the scene than from the bandstand at the rear of the hall just back of the German Societies of the United States, a large-sized orchestra, consisting of brass instruments, began to play a stirring march. The enthusiastic crowd of merry-makers could not restrain from cheering as the music burst forth.

At the eastern end of the hall is the stage, and it was from this that immediately after the playing of music the formal exercises of opening took place, addresses being made by Germans prominent in the United States and appropriate chorus selections being sung by the United Singers of Washington.

President Kurt Voelckner, the head of the District of Columbia, made the formal opening address of the evening. He confined his remarks principally to the significance of the occasion and the joyous event which it typified. A brilliant address in English was made by Dr. C. J. Hexamer, president of the German-American Alliance, of the German District of Columbia societies are a part. Dr. Hexamer has a wide reputation both in this country and abroad.

Mr. Barthold's Address. Music by the United Singers of Washington was the next feature on the program. They sang Mendelssohn's "Jaeger's Abschied." The Hon. Richard Barthold, member of Congress from St. Louis, who has long been identified with German interests, being himself a German, made an interesting address on the subject of the Teutonic strain in the American race, and spoke of the many fine attributes that it had contributed to higher citizenship, and the prominent role the German element had played in the history of the United States.

"Gruesse an die Heimat" was next sung, and the Rev. A. W. Hildebrandt was then introduced, being received with great enthusiasm, the audience recognizing him as the author of the famous Kaiser prize song, "Das Deutsche Volkslied." Dr. Hildebrandt is from New York and was a guest of honor at the celebration. He read a poem which was enthusiastically received.

Perhaps the best idea of the artistic effect in the laying out of the village and of the green surrounding it, in which a kermess is held, can be obtained in a view from the platform in the windmill tower at the end of the hall, where, by the way, is a beautiful fortune teller, who, in her lofty room can read palms with marvelous insight. From this elevation it is possible to see the whole scheme of decoration that has been carried out.

As the visitor enters he looks down a street, the most prominent feature of which is a magnificent Christmas tree

## DAVID BELASCO HOLDS ALL-NIGHT REHEARSAL

"Sweet Kitty Bellairs" Ready for Washington—Production in Good Shape for Public.

The 148 members of the "Sweet Kitty Bellairs" company, after spending almost twelve hours in rehearsal under the personal supervision of David Belasco, the author of the play, left the stage of the Lafayette Square Opera House at 7 o'clock this morning.

Many of the band of players had been through a similar experience on numerous occasions—they knew David Belasco's rehearsals meant business; but to the major portion of the company it was new. There are rehearsals and rehearsals in the theatrical world, but a Belasco affair is unlike anything else in its line. Belasco himself knows no such thing as rest, and from the moment he reached Washington Sunday afternoon he abandoned all thought of sleep until after the first performance of his new play tomorrow night on the stage of the Lafayette Square Theater.

There was a rehearsal of the less important members of the "Sweet Kitty Bellairs" company at Carroll Institute last Sunday morning; another rehearsal the afternoon, and at night the Lafayette stage was crowded with the army of actors, scene shifters, property men and electricians.

Last night everything was in readiness for a complete dress rehearsal. The different scenes of the play were first set up for Mr. Belasco's inspection. The light effects were displayed, and the costumes were worn by the players for the first time.

There will be a final dress rehearsal tonight, and the chances are that it will be an all-night affair, but the actors and actresses will depart from the theater with the pleasing knowledge that the creative genius of Belasco has once more evolved a play and production that will take an equal rank with his previous works, and that there is every probability that it will prove to be the one big success of the current theatrical season—the success that the show world has been awaiting since September.

## "BOB" TAYLOR, HUMORIST, DELIGHTS HIS AUDITORS

"Mirth and Melody, Fun and Folly," at the National Rifles Armory.

EX-Gov. "Bob" Taylor, the funny man from the mountains of eastern Tennessee, and known the country over as statesman, public speaker, and especially as a dapper, delighted a large audience at the National Rifles Armory last night by the delivery of his revised lecture, "The Fiddle and the Bow."

The speaker was introduced by Senator Fairbanks of Indiana, for whose complimentary expressions Governor Taylor returned this sally when he arose to speak.

"Oh, would that this gracious Senator were only a Democrat," the applause and laughter which followed this opening remark indicated that it fell upon an audience which shared the wish. However, the lecturer's talk, as he called it, was not upon politics, but rather, as he said, of music and mirth and melody, of fun and folly, of happiness of home, of harmony and heaven. Now the speaker took his sympathetic listeners to the sublime heights of oratory, and then dropped gracefully into the meter of a negro lullaby, which carried those of his hearers who came from the Southland back to their nursery days, made them young again, and recalled to all the joyous days of childhood.

"Bob" Taylor's oratory is of the kind which is sweet music to the ears. There is rhythm in his voice, and his speech is keyed to melody. From the brink of tears to the heights of pealing laughter he carried his audience back and forth as they flowed swiftly and sweetly from his lips, the lecturer would break forth into song, and then on again in an unbroken string of metaphor. His lecture abounded in beautiful word pictures and good, plain, wholesome, humorous, human-interest stories typical of life in the old days of the South. For an hour and a half Governor Taylor held his auditors spellbound and when he had finished there was not a person in attendance who would not willingly have remained to hear him repeat the lecture.

His very appearance and mannerisms denote good nature. At an unexpected moment, when the tension of his hearers was strained to the utmost in following the rhythmic sentences as they flowed swiftly and sweetly from his lips, the lecturer would break forth into song, and then on again in an unbroken string of metaphor. His lecture abounded in beautiful word pictures and good, plain, wholesome, humorous, human-interest stories typical of life in the old days of the South. For an hour and a half Governor Taylor held his auditors spellbound and when he had finished there was not a person in attendance who would not willingly have remained to hear him repeat the lecture.

## STATUS OF THE AWARD ON ADAMS MILL ROAD

Corporation Counsel Will Pass Upon Rights of Association.

The attention of the District Commissioners has been directed by Auditor Garrison to a recent award to the Colored Union Benevolent Association, involved in the widening of Adams Mill Road. The Auditor suggests the papers be referred to the Corporation Counsel for a determination of the legal status in the premises.

The award to the Union Benevolent Association for certain land designated as parcel No. 1, amounted to \$3,623, and the further sum of \$500 was awarded to the association for damages by way of allowance for the cost and expenses of removing thirty-seven bodies from the plot of land mentioned, and the reinterment of the bodies. The parcel of ground is located near the Zoological Park and for many years was used as a cemetery. When the widening of the Adams Mill Road was undertaken it was found necessary to cut through the old burial ground.

## LOCAL MENTION.

E. H. Sothorn in "The Proud Prince."

E. H. Sothorn's appearance in "The Proud Prince" at the National Theater last week is engrossing, just entire attention of theatergoers. The scenes of "The Proud Prince" are laid in Sicily in the thirteenth century. A new element is introduced in the religious and super-natural, and the play is made picturesque with scenes of temple and monastery, with the soulful music of organ, the chanting of monks, and religious choristers.

McCarty's new handling his subject with true reverence and dignity, and it has attracted the attention of the churchgoers as well as the theatergoer. A love theme is the moving spirit of the play. Miss Cecilia Loftus is the leading woman and has a role of great power and beauty to portray as the daughter of the executioner.

The sale of seats commences Thursday morning. Kerosene, 13c; Gasoline, 13c Per Gallon each. We furnish the cans free. Drop postal, or phone East 62. Home Safety Oil Delivery. Half and K Streets southwest. Best oil obtainable. Prompt delivery.

Condemned Government Goods. Boots, \$2.50; ponchos, 75c; blankets, 75c; three gray undershirts, \$1; leggings, 25c; also 500 pieces best quality roofing paper. See S. Benninger & Co., 11th and B.

In the Homes "Muenchener" Beer is especially appreciated. Brewed of finest materials—fully aged, 2 doz., \$1.25. Nat. Cap. Brewing Co.

Order Flowers for Thanksgiving At Shaffer's, 14th & I; 1711 Pa. ave.

Roast Turkey Boxes. J. Jay Gould's.

Schmidt's—The place for pets—712 12th.

Genuine \$5, \$6, and \$7 Sample Shoes. Three hundred styles at \$2.50. Keene's Shoe Store, 908 G Street northwest.

Miller Oil Heaters, \$3.50. 616 12th st. Muddiman & Co., 1204 G st.

## Dr. Lyon's PERFECT Tooth Powder

Used by people of refinement for over a quarter of a century.

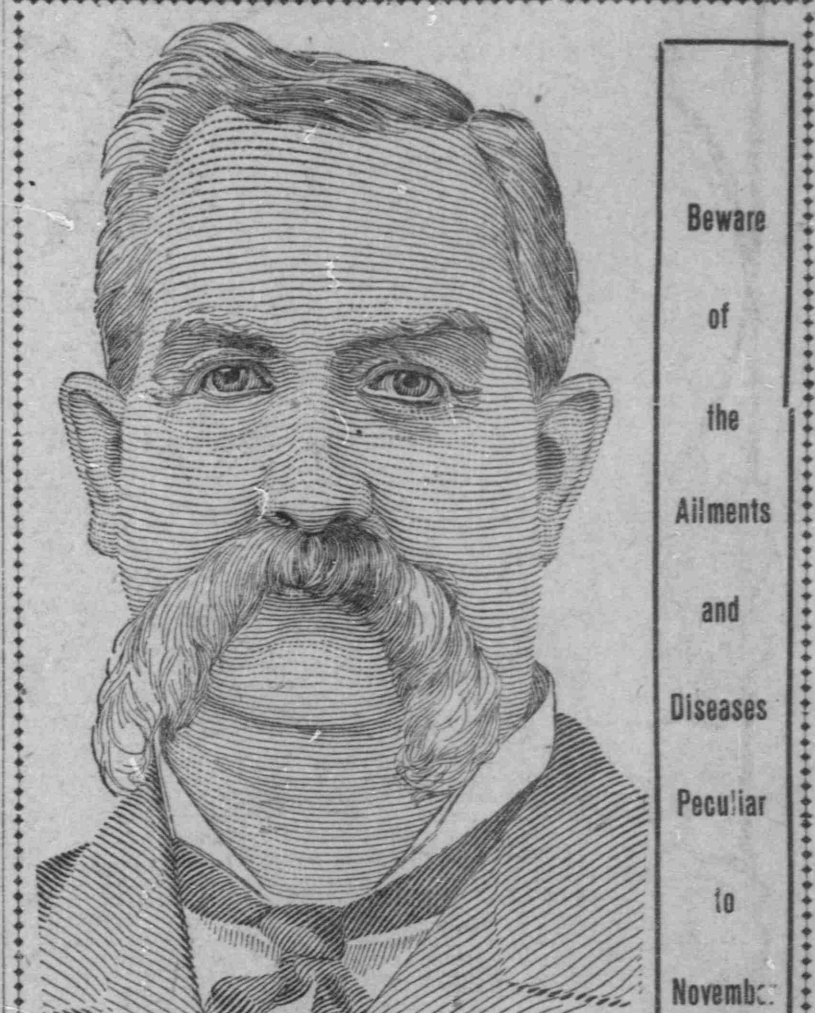
PREPARED BY J. W. Lyon, D.D.S.

For years the author of Dr. Agnew's Heart Cure has believed that the health of the heart is almost entirely responsible for the health of the nerves and stomach, and now it can be proven. Dr. Agnew's Heart Cure will relieve heart disease in 30 minutes and cure it. It sends the nerve through the heart by giving the heart the necessary power to pump rich blood to the nerve centers, when stomach disorders and nervousness disappear as by magic. One dose will convince.

Dr. Agnew's Liver Pills. 40 Doses, 10 Cents

## A JUDGE'S INDORSEMENT.

He Recommends Pe-ru-nia for Coughs, Colds, Catarrh, and General Debility.



HON. W. H. SEBRING,  
Ex-Brigadier General, Ex-County Judge of  
Levi County, Florida.

Hon. W. H. Sebring, late Brigadier General of the Florida State Militia, also ex-County Judge of Levi County, Florida. This prominent gentleman, in a letter from 122 West Fourth Street, Jacksonville, Fla., writes: "I can cheerfully recommend your valuable remedy Peru-nia as a very excellent tonic, and also good for coughs, colds, catarrh and general debility."—W. H. Sebring.

DURING the month of November one should carefully guard against kidney diseases. During the warm months the skin has been eliminating the poisonous materials from the system. Perspiration has formed a channel through which the system has been protected from urinary poisons.

But during November the cold weather stops perspiration. This throws the burden of eliminating the poisons wholly upon the kidneys. More cases of Bright's Disease of the kidneys originate during the month of November than all other months of the year. It behooves everyone to be on their guard against kidney diseases. The kidneys need a little stimulating encouragement. Obligated suddenly to perform the work of the skin besides their own work, the kidneys may fail.

A tablespoonful of Peru-nia two or three times a day during the beginning of cold weather insures a man against urinary diseases incident to the weather. There is no fact in medical literature better established than the fact that a few doses of Peru-nia taken at the right time prevent kidney diseases.

Oscar L. Meister, 423 Vincent Avenue, Minneapolis, Minn., writes: "One year ago last January I suffered with kidney trouble and I was a physical wreck and my life looked very gloomy for many weeks, but Peru-nia came to my relief and has made a new man of me; and now my life looks very different and I am glad to testify to the merits of Peru-nia. I hope that some of my friends who are afflicted will read this and be cured."—Oscar L. Meister.

Catarrh of the pelvic organs, especially catarrh of the bladder, is also very prevalent during the month of November. Charles H. Pohlman, Sergeant Co. D, 21st U. S. Infantry, Philippine Islands, writes from 435 Breckenridge Street, Buffalo, N. Y., as follows: "I was so miserable for two years with kidney and bladder trouble that I lost all enjoyment of life. I was in pain whether standing, walking or lying down, and sometimes everything would grow black before my eyes and I would become dizzy. Headaches were of daily occurrence. I had great difficulty in passing water and the urine was cloudy. I certainly had one foot in the grave and never expected to get well again. Peru-nia changed all this, however. I used it for nineteen weeks before I was entirely cured, but I gradually improved while taking it so that I felt encouraged to continue its use. I am so grateful that I cannot express my thanks in words. Peru-nia simply saved my life."—Charles H. Pohlman.

If you do not derive prompt and satisfactory results from the use of Peru-nia, write at once to Dr. Hartman, giving a full statement of your case and he will be pleased to give you his valuable advice gratis.

Address Dr. Hartman, President of The Hartman Sanatorium, Columbus, O.

\$100  
—FOR—  
CHRISTMAS

TO THE  
WINNER  
OF THE

TIMES WORD  
CONTEST ENDS  
DEC. 19

CASTORIA For Infants and Children.  
The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Littlejohn*